



September 20, 2010

IVHInsights

NEWS FROM PERSONNEL SERVICES

by Kathy Bair

A recording of the webcast, "Knowing Your Numbers – A Lifeline to Good Health," presented on September 14, 2010, by Jennifer DeWall, Iowa Department of Public Health, is available at the DAS Healthy Opportunities Wellness Education website - <http://employeewellness.iowa.gov/learning.html>.

This recording will allow you to view and hear this entire informative and interesting presentation from work or home.



Pictured above: IVH staff get into the spirit of the Annual Tailgate Party sponsored by the R.E.A.L. Committee.



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Commandant's Corner

Well, Summer is coming to a close and Fall will soon be upon us. Everyone should have congratulated those Iowa fans, who have been very humble in their celebration. Congrats Hawkeyes!! Remember, though, basketball season will soon be here.

As we move into the new season, I hope you all take some time to enjoy yourselves and seize an opportunity doing those things you enjoy. While there still is good weather, I plan to spend some time getting to know Iowa from the seat of my Harley Davidson. If you happen to ride and you want to come along, just let me know. I normally just head down some road and keep going until I get hungry.

Please take some time doing exactly

what you enjoy, whether it's spending time with your family, enjoying a football game, or watching the playoffs and World Series.

Many of you have asked about my wife Angela. She is pretty well settled in over in Iraq. She lives in a 12 X 12 hut with a roommate and is doing well. She ensures that the proper medical support is getting to the necessary places and takes care of the soldiers in her unit. I get to speak with her at least once a week and have let her know you all ask about her.

I will continue to try and get around the facility as much as possible and make an attempt to speak with all of you. Keep doing the wonderful job you do.

Commandant David Worley

New Pathways Program IVH by Tammy Haren



The Hospice and Palliative Committee is implementing the Pathways Program effective October 1, 2010. The program is designed to serve as a communication tool for employees, volunteers, residents and their families. This picture will be placed outside the resident room to indicate a resident has entered into their final stage of life. Using this image will notify the IVH community to consult with unit staff prior to entering a resident room, assuring resident/ family dignity and respect are maintained. Use of this communication tool will allow us to provide support, comfort and compassion to the resident, family, and staff.



Heinz Hall Update

by *Becky Albertsen, LPN*

The HH resident and staff softball game was held in August. The teams consisted of mixes of staff and residents and all had fun without injuries!

We welcomed Marilyn Melick as our evening nurse – she will be here Monday through Friday, 3 - 11:30 p.m.

College classes have begun for many of our residents but they took time off to enjoy their annual Labor Day picnic on September 6. The residents planned and prepared the food for this event and they did a great job with it.

We have welcomed many new faces to Heinz Hall in the past few weeks and our beds are currently filled.

IVH Insights is a twice-monthly publication of the Iowa Veterans Home.

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Call ext. 4397 or
send to PR/Mktg Dept.

Preparing for VA Survey by *Cindi Hineman*

We are due for our VA survey in November. It is time to review the findings of our previous surveys to assure we have incorporated these habits into our daily lives.

Knocking on resident doors and being acknowledged before entering a resident's room unless the resident is not capable of a response. This does not apply in emergency conditions.

The building, grounds, and other buildings shall be maintained in clean, orderly condition and in good repair. Draperies and furniture shall be clean and in good repair. All staff are to report items in disrepair to the designated staff on the unit.

Electrical Requirements - surge protectors have only certain items that can be plugged into them.

Medications and Personal care items cannot be left unattended.

The facility shall offer bedtime snacks daily. All nursing units are to offer a snack every night.

There are rules that must be followed when preparing and storing food and cooking utensils both in the kitchen and the canteen. There must always be a separation of clean and dirty.

Do not leave oxygen running when the resident is not in the room. All fire rated doors must be able to close and latch, nothing can impede a door closing.

Confidentiality – do not discuss resident issues in public areas. When you are about to talk about resident issues, some things to consider are: does the person(s) around me need to know this information; and are there people around that should not hear it. Stop and think about what you are saying!

Technology Department Updates by *Pat Williams*

The count-down has begun! The IVH Information Technology Department started the transition to Microsoft Office Professional 2007 on August 17, 2010. The transition will be complete on September 30, 2010.

The IVH IT Network Team “advertised” the new program. (you will see a message and icon in the bottom right corner of your screen indicating “A new program is available”.) You currently have the opportunity to decide on the date/time you want to complete the actual installation (which takes about 15 minutes). Take some time to familiarize yourself with the new look and operation of the software. **If you do not complete the installation prior to September 30, 2010, the software will be automatically installed.** You will find a description of steps to follow to complete the installation in “IT How-To” document library on IVH SharePoint under Documents or by clicking on this link: <http://ivhsharepoint/IT%20HowTo/Office%202007%20Steps%20to%20Installing.docx>

Microsoft has made significant changes to the Office suite of programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.). If you haven't had exposure to the Office 2007 software yet, attend an overview sessions prior to installing the new software on your workstation. Several sessions were offered during August and September. At this time, there are no additional sessions scheduled. If you were unable to attend a session and would like to learn more about the changes, please contact Pat Williams at ext. 4313.

On-line tutorials are also available to staff. These can be reviewed at any time while logged into the IVH network and can be found by going to IVH SharePoint and then to the Training Site or by clicking on this link: <http://ivhsharepoint/Training/default.aspx> and then looking under the section “Office 2007 Training.”

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the IT Help Desk at extension 4222.

Facilities Management *by Kathy Shannon*



The changes in the Dock Day Room Expansion Project (*pictured left*) are once again very noticeable. The concrete topping over the hollow core floor panels has been poured and the cementitious fireproofing has been applied. The metal stud framing has begun with sheathing being attached and waterproofed. The masons are on the job and installing bricks to the east side. The under floor waste and vent and electrical rough in will begin soon. **REMINDER: the day rooms will be offline until May 2011.**

The Phase 1 project is continuing at a steady pace. The last household in the Ulery building is being framed and should be shingled soon. Work is also continuing on all households in the Ulery building. Each household is at a very different stage of completion, much as we have seen with the Fox building. The activities range from initial framing to dry walling and installing ceramic tile. The concrete paving has begun and the drive connection to Independence has been completed.

The Fox building continues to progress well. The fencing and planting has begun around and in the courtyards. Seeding of grasses was scheduled to begin again after August 15. You may have noticed the grass turning brown around the Sheeler Building. The contractor has killed the weeds and the soil will be prepared for the final grass seeding. The sidewalks around Fox should be completed in the next two weeks. The interior painting is being conducted in all the households and the casework and trim has begun (*pictured below right*). Kitchen cabinets are currently being installed in household # 4 (*pictured below left*).



Remodeling of the Dock and Malloy elevators have been underway for several weeks. The second set of cars has been inspected. The project now moves to the next set of cars. The next car to be taken offline in Malloy will be the fourth car instead of the third car. Due to the way the elevators respond to calls, we are hopeful that by scheduling the fourth car before the third car, we can avoid some of the delays that occurred when we took the second car offline.

As people begin to use the new elevators, there may be some questions about why there are no mirrors and why the floor didn't get redone. The contractor informed us that the mirrors that were in the old cars no longer meet code, so we are having new mirrors priced for installation. The new flooring has been selected and the flooring replacement is tentatively scheduled to be conducted at the end of the project, one set of cars at a time. Again, everyone's patience during this time has been appreciated. Thank you to all who have been able and willing to take the stairs.

The Bulk Oxygen Relocation project (*pictured right*) is nearing completion. The concrete pad is poured and the new tank has been set and filled. Due to some unforeseen conditions, the contractor installed additional piping, putting the project two weeks behind schedule. The inspection was scheduled to be completed and the final connection to occur on September 14, 2010. The removal of the old tank and landscaping the area will complete this project.



Resident & Family Services

by Randy Inhelder

The IVH has had an Ethics Committee for several years and is a resource for residents, families, legal representatives, and facility staff. It is available to help members of the IVH community who are facing ethical dilemmas in healthcare. The committee offers the following services:

- provides educational materials and programs on ethical issues in healthcare.
- assists IVH committees in formulating and reviewing policies and guidelines.
- offers ethics consultation services to assist residents, family members, legal representatives and staff working through difficult ethical dilemmas.

Over the last few years, the Committee has had a number of different referrals and has done their best to give meaningful, helpful feedback to the IRCC teams and others.

A common ethical dilemma that continues to arise is related to the rights of the resident on one hand to live their life in accordance with their wishes, values, beliefs, and morals, and that of the facility to encourage those same residents to make responsible, safe, healthy decisions. These often result in disagreement about how best to proceed.

As we continue to be a community, issues will arise in the future and I encourage you to utilize your Ethics Committee; they genuinely want to be a useful service to our community.

Eighth Annual Don Laughlin Music Festival

Sat. October 2nd
12:30 – 4:30 pm
Malloy LRC

12:30 Opening Ceremony

12:45 County Line
(bluegrass band)

2:00 Tribute to Don
Laughlin and Iowa
Veterans Home
Talent perform

3:00 Jason Walsmith
(of The Nadas)



Don Laughlin

Upcoming Events

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location
Mon	9/20	1:30-3:30 pm	IVH Candidate Forum (for local and state offices)	Malloy LRC
Wed	9/22	10 am	Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs Meeting	Ford Conf. Rm.
	9/23 – 26		Oktemberfest (www.oktemberfest.com)	Downtown Marshalltown
Mon	9/27	9 and 10 am	Legislative Town Hall Meetings	Malloy and HH LRC
Wed	9/29	9am-3pm	IVH/ABM Blood Drive	Malloy LRC
Sat	10/2	12:30-4:30 pm	Don Laughlin Music Festival	Malloy LRC
	10/25-29		Halloween Fun House	Loftus 2
Wed	10/27		IVH Staff Costume Contest	Loftus 2
Thurs	10/28	8am-4:20 pm	IVH Mental Health Issues Symposium	Whitehill
Fri	11/5	9am-4pm	Annual IVH Holiday Bazaar	Malloy LRC

Announcements

I would like to thank everyone for the support for the fundraiser for my mother Donna Norton. It was a huge success and It was very nice of people to bake items to bring in on their own time. I would also like to thank everyone for their donations it was also a huge success. The money was used to keep her at the hospice house here in Marshalltown and the money that was left over will be donated to the Hospice House (It is a very wonderful place for loved ones to be at end of life). Thank you so much everyone it means a lot to my family and I.
~ Sheena Parks

A BIG THANKS from the Animal Rescue League for donations from Karen Jones Memorial. Thanks to all who donated, \$360 was raised. We can put it to good use!



The Iowa Veterans Home is now on Facebook! Become a "friend" of IVH by going to www.facebook.com/iowaveteranshome. This new communication tool will help us keep in touch with staff (past and present), residents, and friends of the IVH.

IVH Tailgate Party Festivities



IVH staff and residents are great supporters of Iowa, Iowa State, and UNI as was evident at the Annual IVH Tailgate party



Business Services Update *by Greg Wright*

Due to the construction of the tunnel connecting the Ulery building to Malloy the Canteen solarium had to be partially removed. We are going to approach this as an opportunity to address environmental issues that we have had to work around since the structure was added to the building. The old design generated a lot of heat and we had to close off the area at times in the winter due to ice falling off the building onto the glass ceiling. The Canteen solarium remodel is planned to begin this fall. The new solarium will have a slanted metal roof that will prevent our previous problem of shattered glass panels from falling ice. All side glass panels will be replaced with new, energy efficient glass creating a more comfortable dining environment. Also, the vending machines will be moved back to the Canteen dining room to free up more space in the solarium. Once the project begins, construction should take approximately five weeks.